

REPLACEMENT FOR AGENDA ITEM #10

INTRODUCED BY:

Thomas J. Clarke II, Majority Leader
Council President Maly Rosado
James Sanchez, Councilman
John Gale, Councilman
Shirley Surgeon, Councilwoman
Marilyn Rossetti, Councilwoman
Nick Lebron, Councilman

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

City of Hartford, June 4, 2020

WHEREAS, Members of our community are keenly aware of the prejudices and implicit biases that exist in the criminal justice system which are exacerbated by a fundamental lack of transparency and oversight regarding policing practices; and

WHEREAS, The lack of accountability procedures external to police control remains a key detriment to ensuring responsible policing and safer communities; and

RESOLVED, The Hartford Police Accountability Review Board (PARB) shall be created as an independent body not tied to the Hartford Police Department, and shall consider reforms regarding policing practices, such as those discussed in President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The board will also engage directly with the Hartford community and submit formal recommendations on a number of policies and issues including, but not limited to: cadet recruitment, hiring practices, staffing for managerial and command positions, training practices including de-escalation techniques, appropriate use of weapons and equipment, and community outreach initiatives; and

RESOLVED, The Hartford PARB will meet at least once each month at City Hall. The committee meetings shall be open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns and ideas to ensure responsible policing that protects our community; be it further

RESOLVED, The Court of Common Council shall use this resolution and references attached as a guide to create and work with the Mayor to adopt a city ordinance; be it further

RESOLVED, That the Court of Common Council shall continue to work with multiple civil rights organizations to help create policies and procedures that will be more equitable and just with a goal in mind to end discriminatory and unjust policing practices; be it further

RESOLVED, That upon all approvals and authorizations provided this action will be sent to the Connecticut General Assembly's Black & Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus urging them to adopt this action statewide.

Hartford - Police Accountability Review Board Resolution

Goal: To create an independent civilian oversight board for the Hartford Police Department.

The goal of the board will be to monitor recruitment to the hiring practices, monitor the staffing levels, promotions and managerial/command positions within PD to ensure the department is racially balanced which includes those in command positions.

The board will be composed of at least 11 Hartford residents but not limited to, members of civil rights organizations, legal professionals and city personnel who will be appointed by the Mayor and City Council and will serve for at least two year terms.

The board will be an independent agency not tied to the Hartford police department. The board will engage directly with the Hartford community and give advice on a number of issues not limited to:

- Cadet recruitment
- Hiring practices, staffing levels, promotions, managerial/command positions
- Training practices including deescalation techniques
- Appropriate use of weapons and equipment
- Issue it's own reviews and recommendations of the Police Department that are separate from the Civilian Police Review Board

The board will meet **at least one time per month.** - Committee meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns/ideas.

Similar Commissions Across the Country:

Berkeley PDC

- Composed of 9 Berkeley residents who are appointed by the Mayor and City Council (anyone over age of 18 can apply).
- PRC is an independent, civilian oversight agency to the Police Department.
- The PRC advises city leaders and the BPD on police policies and investigates complaints by members of the public against police officers.
- It is empowered to review and advise on any function of the department including but not limited to: hiring, training, use of weapons and equipment and development.
- The PRC continually seeks feedback from the community, and PRC regular and subcommittee meetings are open to the public; everyone is welcome.

Sacramento Community Police Commission

- The commission is established for the purpose of providing recommendations to the mayor and city council on bias-free policing and the implementation, evaluation, and sustainability of efforts intended to strengthen community-police relations.
- Composed of 11 Sacramento residents
- Members can serve an max of 2 4 year terms
- Commission meets twice a month.

Seattle - Actual Ordinance Included

- CPC focuses more broadly on addressing systemic issues through changes to policies and practices that improve performance and support a culture of accountability in the Seattle Police Department and OPA.

Rochester, NY Board

- Independent investigative authority as an agency of city government independent from the RPD;
- Subpoena power to compel the production of evidence and witnesses;
- The authority to conduct misconduct hearings;
- Disciplinary authority; and
- The power to evaluate systemic patterns, practices, policies, and procedures of the RPD to recommend changes and prevent misconduct.

Reforming Policing Practices Recommendations

President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing

This task force prepared recommendations, each with action items, organized around six main topic areas or "pillars":

- Building Trust and Legitimacy
- Policy and Oversight
- Technology and Social Media,
- Community Policing and Crime Reduction
- Officer Training and Education
- Officer Safety and Wellness.

ALL VIDEOS
REMOVED

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